IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute claims 1-27 with the following:

1-16.   (Cancelled).

17.   (Currently Amended) A digital signal processing apparatus comprising:

first decoding means for decoding control data previously encoded and described in interface data for an instrumental performance, which contains at least performance data for causing a sound source storing plural pieces of instrumental tone information to generate a performance tone of an instrument; and

second decoding means for decoding a digital signal other than a signal of the performance tone, in correspondence with reproduction timing information of the performance data, on the basis of the control data decoded by the first decoding means, wherein the interface data includes an indication of a type of the digital signal other than the performance tone signal, and wherein the type comprises one of an audio signal, an image signal, and a text signal;

wherein the control data ~~is previously described as~~ may be modified by a user to create an encoded data string ~~in a user defined sequence specific event~~ in a standard format of the interface data; and

wherein the control data is described before a timing at which the control data is desired to be controlled, and timing information setting forth when control is to be executed is included in the control data.

18.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the digital signal other than the signal of the performance tone is an audio signal.

19.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the digital signal other than the signal of the performance tone is an image signal.

20.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the digital signal other than the signal of the performance tone is a signal representing a character.

21.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the control data is data for controlling a reproduction timing of the digital signal other than the signal of the performance tone.

22.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the control data is data for controlling a parameter concerning reproduction of the digital signal other than the signal of the performance tone.

23.   (Cancelled).

24.   (Currently Amended) A control data generating method comprising a step of generating interface data containing control data for synchronizing a digital signal other than a performance tone signal, with the performance signal output from a sound source which stores plural pieces of instrumental tone information, wherein the interface data includes an indication of a type of the digital signal other than the performance tone signal, wherein the type comprises one of an audio signal, an image signal, and a text signal;

wherein the control data ~~is previously described as~~ may be modified by a user to create an encoded data string ~~in a user-defined sequence specific event~~ in a standard format of the interface data;

wherein the control data is described before a timing at which the control data is desired

to be controlled, and timing information which is desired to be actually controlled is included in

the control data; and

wherein a control event in the control data can define that actual control be executed at a

timing other than real time timing.

25.   (Currently Amended) A control data generating apparatus comprising means for

generating interface data containing control data for synchronizing a digital signal other than a

performance tone signal, with the performance signal output from a sound source which stores

plural pieces of instrumental tone information, wherein the interface data includes an indication

of a type of the digital signal other than the performance tone signal, wherein the type comprises

one of an audio signal, an image signal, and a text signal;

wherein the control data is ~~previously described as~~ may be modified by a user to create an

encoded data string ~~in a user defined sequence specific event~~ in a standard format of the interface

data; and

wherein the control data is described before a timing at which the control data is desired

to be controlled, and timing information setting forth when control is to be executed is included

in the control data.

26.   (Currently Amended) A program recording medium with a program therein,

wherein the program comprises:

a first step of decoding control data previously encoded and described in interface data

for instrumental performance, which contains at least performance data for causing a sound

source storing plural pieces of instrumental tone information to generate a performance tone of

an instrument; and

a second step of decoding a digital signal other than a signal of the performance tone, in

correspondence with reproduction timing information of the performance data, on the basis of

the control data decoded by the first step, wherein the interface data includes an indication of a

type of the digital signal other than the performance tone signal, wherein the type comprises one

of an audio signal, an image signal, and a text signal;

wherein the control data is previously described as may be modified by a user to create an

encoded data string in a user-defined sequence specific event in a standard format of the interface

data; and

wherein the control data is described before a timing at which the control data is desired

to be controlled, and timing information setting forth when control is to be executed is included

in the control data.

27.   (Cancelled).